Migrant workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979, the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, the Building and Other Construction (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, etc. which provide *inter alia,* creche facilities for the benefit of women workers, time off for feeding children during working hours, provision of maternity leave and separate toilets and washing facilities for female and male workers near the workplace. The various State Governments are the appropriate agencies for enforcing these laws.

Special Economic Zones to attract foreign investment

453. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of NON-RESIDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to set up Special Economic Zones in all State capitals to attract foreign investment from NRIs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any such Special Economic Zones in any State Capital already in operation;

(d) what would be the capital outlay on this investment by Government; and

(e) the schedule of taking up this work by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-RESIDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) There is at present no SEZ in any State Capital exclusively for NRIs, however setting up of such Economic Zones to attract foreign investment from NRIs is under consideration.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Dual citizenship to NRIs

† 454. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of NON-RESIDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of such countries whose Non-Resident Indians have been provided with dual citizenship;

(b) the criteria fixed for providing dual citizenship;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the benefits Non-Resident Indians get from dual citizenship; and

(d) the benefits India get by providing dual citizenship?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-RESIDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) NRIs are already Indian Citizens and as such no dual citizenship has been provided to them. However, Overseas citizenship has been provided to Persons of Indian Origin of the following countries:

I.Australia	5. Greece	9. Netherlands	13. Sweden
2. Canada	6. Ireland	10. New Zealand	14. Switzerland
3. Finland	7. Israel	11. Portugal	15.United Kingdom
4. France	8. Italy	12. Republic of Cyprus	16. USA

(b) The criteria for selecting countries to provide dual citizenship is as following:

(i) Longstanding and clear demand by the PIO community.

(ii) Local consensus and prevailing environment.

(iii) Local laws should permit dual citizenship.

(c) Benefits for PIOs from Overseas Citizenship are as following:

(i) Issuance of a registration certificate on being granted Overseas Citizenship

(ii) Issuance of an overseas citizen passport

(iii) No requirement of visa for travel to India (both passports will be required to be presented while travelling to/from India)

(iv) No registration formalities for staying in the country up to 180 days

(v) No separate documentation required for admission in colleges/ institutions or for taking employment.

(vi) Parity with non-resident Indians in respect of facilities available to the latter in the economic, financial and educational fields.

(vii) Facilities as available to children of NRIs for obtaining Admission to educational institutions in India, including medical colleges,

engineering colleges, institute of technology, institute of management etc. under the general category.

(d) Benefits India gets by providing dual citizenship are as following:

(i) Strengthening of emotional and cultural ties with India.

(ii) Important role of PIOs in the development process.

(iii) Foreign investment in various sectors.

(iv) Transfer of technology.

(v) Greater coordination with motherland.

Remittance sent by NRIs

455. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of NON-RESIDENT
INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of remittances sent by NRIs from different parts of the world, country-wise;

(b) whether Government are aware that Indian workers living in West Asia and South East Asia do not have citizenship rights in those countries and they have inevitably to come back;

(c) the project for their rehabilitation in India; and

(d) whether Government propose to provide them special facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-RESIDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The net amount of remittances sent by NRIs from different parts of the world is as below:

	US $ million	
Type of Flow	2002-03	2003-04
Private Transfer	14,807	18,885
	(15,174)	(19,235)
Non-Resident Indian (NRI)		
Deposits	2,976	3,628

Note: Figures in bracket are gross inflows.

The Government however, does not maintain country-wise break-up.